

TWO ELY MEN PLEAD GUILTY; OTHERS TO FIGHT BOOZE CHARGE

A special dispatch to the White Pine News from Carson City yesterday says that Dave Dortch and John Jr. pleaded guilty Friday to the charge of violating the federal prohibition law.

Dortch was sentenced by Federal Judge Farrington to pay a fine of \$300 and costs, the latter amounting to \$50.

Weber was fined \$300, with no costs assessed against him, as he was not a proprietor.

The other six Ely cases against W. L. Tuck, John Krahenbuhl, Roy Richards, Chris Hansen, Dick House and Mickey Breen will be tried in Carson City in the federal court in April or May.

Six of the Ely men, who have been christened the "Ely delegation," who went to Carson City under bonds to answer indictments for violation of the federal prohibition law, will fight the case, each having entered a plea of not guilty.

After their return to Ely Thursday night the six declared that this course was made necessary from the fact that they did not learn the identity of the complaining witness, and that not knowing him they could not plead guilty. Without seeing the complainant or knowing his identity they were not in a position to know and say whether or not they are guilty of the particular offense charged. They reserved the right to change their pleas, but it is a certainty that at least several of them will go to trial on their present pleas.

All left here Tuesday morning, reaching Carson City the next forenoon. United States Deputy Marshal G. L. Plummer went on the same train but the men were not in his custody, they being under bonds. They were arraigned the day of arrival, which was Wednesday, each entering his plea, and that afternoon at 5 o'clock they started back. They employed Anthony Jurich as their attorney.

The same bonds that were executed before Justice of the Peace D. C. McDonald hold for their first and second appearances. Five of them are for \$2,000 and three for \$1,500 each.

The ones returning Thursday were W. L. Tuck, Chris Hansen, Roy Richards, Dick House, John Krahenbuhl and Mickey Breen. Dave Dortch and John Weber Jr. stepped off at Reno and returned last night.

What may be the line of defense has not been made known and probably has not been determined upon. Yet it is clear that the first objective is to bring the accused into the open and ascertain his identity. He is believed to be the man calling himself Roberts, whose true name is declared by a man knowing him before to be Rankin. It is known and admitted by one or more of the interested parties that Rankin bought liquor here; that he claimed his wife was sick and that whisky was imperative. Rankin brought a woman with him and they registered at the Collins hotel as man and wife. She kept out of view as much as possible but is supposed to have been present to receive the liquor in person when delivered to her supposedly sickroom. The object of this would be to have two witnesses against each of the accused.

Rankin is said to have at one time been a preacher. One person here who, if this circumstance is true, must have known him to be a dry sleuth is said to have asked him why he did not go up into the restricted district to get some liquor, and it is related that he replied that he could not do that on account of his family. As a coincidence it is cited that no indictments were found against sellers in the red light. On the other hand, if thirty-seven Ely cases were thrown out it is figured that the restricted district would have to be included to make up the total of forty-five.

Expressions of opinion for and against the men arrested appear to be unevenly divided. The first and most frequently heard criticism was that the owners of the larger places were untouched and only the smaller fry gathered in. Another was that it meant taking \$4,000 or \$5,000 out of Ely just at a time when it could least afford the loss.

If there has been any crystallization of sentiment against the accused or a demand for their punishment, and a further one to follow it up until the town and county are bone dry, it has not taken the form of a public expression or announcement.

FOR SALE CHEAP—Four-room furnished modern house, with garage, chicken house and lawn. Apply Geo. Helberg, or at East Ely Lumber Yard.

The subscription list of the White Pine News is growing fast. Are you among the new ones?

BELDEN APPEALS TO ELY VICTIM FOR MONEY LOAN

R. E. Belden, convicted forger from Ely, serving a sentence at the state penitentiary, wants a loan, and the cheerful part of it is that he wants it from one of his victims. He has written a letter appealing for said loan to Chris Christensen of the Southern Club. Christensen and his partner were losers by one of Belden's bogus checks in the sum of \$42.50. The club owner has a fair sense of humor and can see the funny side of this request, but as a practical proposition he is not inclined to entertain it.

What Belden could do with borrowed money or any kind of money in his confinement is not a problem. He could make mail order purchases of tobacco or anything else he wants or imagines he wants. Yet the prison furnishes these little novelties and indulges most of the whims of the inmates. It is suspected that Belden's requirements exceed the allowances.

MOJAVE STRIKE RIVALS RICHEST IN HISTORY

A gold discovery of the most fabulous richness known in the annals of mining is described briefly in a letter received Friday by Fred Strehlke from Al D. Myers, the scene of the strike being at Mojave, Cal., a few miles southeast of Bakersfield and 105 miles from Los Angeles. Mr. Myers says the ore will run up to \$60,000 a ton, its values being in gold.

It is in a flat between two mountain foothills of the Tehachapi range at the western side of the little town. In one of the mountains there are some old tunnels and shafts, where ore was mined years ago. The flat was overlooked or not thoroughly prospected at the time.

Mr. Myers said he had gotten hold of several properties there, supposedly by bonding them, and is enthusiastic over the showing. He describes it as being far richer than anything ever discovered at Goldfield, where he participated in the discovery of the famed Combination mine and witnessed the rich developments of the January, Florence and Mohawk.

Mr. Strehlke is much exercised over it and admits that he would like to be there. He has mined in that region and says it has the best showings of any place he knows of. Several years ago, while in charge of a property in that vicinity, he opened an orebody running \$40 a ton, only to have his pump break down, and the shaft has never been pumped out.

S. O. Komoto, Japanese, Is Insane
S. O. Komoto, a Japanese from McGill, was adjudged insane yesterday by medical examiners in Judge McFadden's court. Komoto was committed to the asylum at Reno. The members of the board were Drs. R. A. Bowdle and W. W. Cook.

BILL SAM'S DICTIONARY



By J. L. MARTIN

EH Witherspoon, who was defeated for the legislature because his friends decided that he was too good a man to take such desperate chances on being disgraced, declares that A. Moon Shiner, who was elected by a big majority, will spend most of his time at the capitol in the cloakroom.

CLOAKROOM: A room in a public building used to a considerable extent by lawmakers to sober up in or to go to when they do not care to vote for the people's interest or against a corporation's. Bill Sam's Dictionary, page 280.

Locals



JURICH'S BILL WOULD TAX UNCOUNTED STOCK

Assemblyman Anthony Jurich has started something at the state capital by the introduction of a bill to enlarge the powers and the force of the state tax commission in order to count the livestock on Nevada ranges for taxation purposes.

The bill provides for the appointment of scouts to go out on the ranges and make an actual count and appropriate \$36,000 to pay them and their expenses. It is similar to a bill introduced four years ago by Assemblyman W. A. Marsh of Nye county, who after an absence of two years from the service of the state has been returned and is thought to be working in conjunction with Mr. Jurich for the passage of the White Pine member's measure.

Instant opposition to the Jurich bill has come up, it being claimed by the northern Nevada stock interests that no more than enough untaxed stock will be found and assessed to reimburse the treasury for the \$36,000 outlay. That the bill will have hard sledding and anything but an even chance of passage is the report from Carson.

JURORS SUMMONED FOR COVERLY MURDER TRIAL

The murder trial of Mrs. Dawn Margaret Williams for the death of Jesse B. Coverly has been set for February 14 and a list of sixty-five veniremen is being summoned for attendance, from which twelve jurors are to be selected. Following are the names:

Alfred Tamblin, O. W. Knous, H. H. Stevenson, Robert T. Nichols, J. E. Johnson, John Monaghan, Mrs. Ollie Searing, Albert T. Anderson, George A. Fisher, E. B. Turner, Robert G. Pohl, Melvin Anderson, John Mullen, Will Hutchings, Arthur Olsen, J. E. Long, Steve Doutré, Fred Faith, J. H. Biggers, Harold P. Jackson, John Ealy, F. E. Grant, J. D. McLaughlin, Andy C. Barr, F. C. Rowan, Rufus Seifers, Claud A. Gardner, George T. Baker, Virginia J. Carothers, Bartley J. Smithson, Charles Bondurant, Charles H. Chester, Mrs. Nellie M. Ball, M. T. Collins, W. C. Perry, Bert C. Burkhardt, J. H. Dolan, William H. Ivins, J. S. Cooper, George H. Earl, W. M. Parks, A. E. Miller, J. H. Eager, Herbert Allred, W. C. Draper, L. F. Peer, Mrs. Alice Knox, George H. Gubler, Martha Farmer, A. Brundies, B. A. Gilland, Walker Cummings, J. K. Barnes, R. L. Tucker, J. W. Walker, George Helbig, George A. Foster, George Starkweather, L. J. Foppiano, S. B. Elbert, J. H. Callahan, John C. Hickey, Richmond Gillespie.

The subpoenas do not say that the jurors are to try any particular case, but since February 14 is the date set for the Williams trial and the veniremen are required to appear on that date there is no way to prevent the drawing of conclusions.

Mrs. Williams was arraigned before Judge C. J. McFadden Wednesday and given an opportunity to enter a plea. She had no attorney and the court named V. H. Vargas to defend her. Mr. Vargas asked for another day for his client to plead and Thursday on a reappearance she pleaded not guilty.

Coverly's body, which had been held since the shooting January 12, was buried Friday in the Ely cemetery at the expense of the county.

Utah Couple Married by McFadden
The marriage of Miss Zelma Larsen of Centerfield, Utah, and Don E. Christensen of Salina, Utah, was solemnized yesterday afternoon in the district court room, Judge C. J. McFadden officiating. Courthouse employees acted as witnesses. The bride and groom have been employed for several months at McGill and will make that place their home.

MORE NEVADA TEACHERS WANTED, SAYS MR. SMITH

To secure more teachers residing in Nevada, rather than to send out for them, and to bring about greater efficiency in country school teaching are two objects which the present school management of the state has set out to accomplish, according to C. W. Smith, the new district superintendent, who has arrived and will make his home in Ely.

This is the purpose of W. J. Hunting, state superintendent, and the board of education, of which he is the head. It is Mr. Smith's idea as well and will be his specialty in conducting the business of this district, which includes White Pine, Eureka and Lander counties.

Mr. Smith says there is a shortage of Nevada-bred teachers and every year outsiders are sent for. The school department earnestly hopes to overcome this confessed discrepancy and believe that more Nevadans may be encouraged to fit themselves and enter the profession. To improve the efficiency of the country teachers the plan is to require certain normal training, which many of them do not have. This will have to come in the future, as it will first be necessary to supply the shortage. After that is done it is planned to encourage and provide state normal training and to supplement it with a system of county normal schools or extension service.

Mr. Smith has had considerable experience in his present line of work. For more than two years he was district superintendent for Churchill, Humboldt and Pershing counties. Last fall he took charge of the public schools at Hawthorne as superintendent but resigned several weeks ago when an offer was made to become George A. Whiteley's successor in this district. Several years ago he was city superintendent of the schools of Tonopah, filling out the term of Mr. Yoder, who resigned.

Mrs. Smith will soon join her husband here. She is visiting at present in Virginia City.

More Snow Needed for Grass and Irrigation

"More snow than we have had will be needed to furnish moisture for grass and water for irrigation," said H. L. Anderson, who came to Ely Wednesday evening from his ranch at the east side of Schellbourne pass. "But there is plenty of time and there will be more. The road was perfectly dry when I left home, and dusty, too. It has been the finest winter ever seen in this country."

W. D. Campbell III With Rheumatism

W. D. Campbell, owner of the Campbell ranch, in Steptoe valley, twenty-four miles north of Ely, has been confined to his home for several weeks with a severe attack of muscular rheumatism.

The pains extend through his limbs and all parts of his body, the most serious ones being in the region of his heart. On previous occasions he has found relief by going to the coast, but he is attached to his home where he has lived for so many years and refuses to leave this time. He is 76 years of age and members of his family, except two daughters, are with him. One of the daughters resides in Cheyenne and the other in Los Angeles.

Mr. Campbell is a White Pine pioneer. He followed mining in the early days and worked a property a few miles west of his ranch, treating the ore at a mill the ruins of which still stand a short distance from his house. The ranch is leased to Arthur Smith, the Campbells retaining their house, which is of cement blocks and one of the best ranch houses in the state.

COUNTY REFUSES SPRINGMEYER'S DEMAND FOR ENFORCEMENT AID

WILL BUY MACHINERY FOR CALUMET TUNNEL

Purchase of a full and modern plant of machinery for the Ely-Calumet Leasing Company, which is about to drive a tunnel in Calumet mountain, adjoining Ely on the north, has been ordered by the management of the company and next Thursday Fred Strehlke, superintendent, will depart for Salt Lake to make the selection and place the order.

It will consist mainly of a compressor, drills and engine, and contrary to local reports the drilling will not be done by hand. It will take several weeks, says Mr. Strehlke, to get the plant here and install it. The site will have to be prepared and the road to the place graded.

The tunnel will pierce the mountain for 1,600 feet. In that distance it should open several bodies of copper ore which show croppings and have been proved to a limited extent by shallow work. The final objective will be the great zinc ledge, which should be intersected at the end of the tunnel. The tunnel will enter the mountain from the south, one-fourth of a mile from town.

Mr. Strehlke's orders are to get nothing but a suitable and efficient plant. The company is under the direction of J. M. Hayden.

TIRE PRICES ADVANCE; COTTON AND RUBBER UP

An advance of 12 1-2 per cent in the price of tires and tubes has been made by manufacturers and the same went into effect in Ely during the week.

Cord tires, 30 by 3 1-2, which previously sold at \$13.50, are listed at \$15.20. Cords, 32 by 4, which were \$29.50, are \$32.80, and 33 by 4, which were \$30.05, are \$33.80. Other sizes have the same percentage of advance.

The same rate of increase applies to fabric tires and tubes.

The advance has been predicted for several months and only during the week were the market and financial columns of outside dailies teeming with the promised raise.

The explanation offered is that of a general increase in the price of both crude rubber and cotton. Dealers claim that the present price is but up to the prewar level and that the late ones were below the prices before 1914; in fact, the lowest since automobiles were invented and tires brought up to their present quality.

Indian Boy Bitten by Hexem's Setter

An Indian boy, the young son of a squaw named Mattie, was bitten by Andrew Hexem's Llewellyn setter dog during the middle of the week, the child's knee being lacerated almost to the bone. The dog was isolated soon afterward and is being held in confinement for a week to determine whether or not he may be developing a case of rabies. There is said to be no sign of the disease as yet. Present opinion is that the dog was unaffected and no harm will ensue.

PEOPLE OF OUR TOWN



If there's Anything Interesting about This Bird, nobody's Discovered it as Yet. He's the Village Loafers, and all he Does is Eat and Sleep and Breathe, Nothing More, and when he Decides to Quit walking Around to save Funeral Expenses, the Town will never Miss Him.

White Pine county will not participate in a movement planned by United States District Attorney George Springmeyer to close the towns and use its financial resources to assist in enforcement of the Volstead act. This has been made clear to Mr. Springmeyer in a letter addressed to him this week by the county commissioners.

The action was formal. It came about through a letter addressed to the board by Mr. Springmeyer, in which he urged the appointment of four more deputy sheriffs to assist Sheriff Nicholson in making Ely and the county dry.

The letter came before the board at its semi-monthly sitting last Tuesday and not a word or sentiment was expressed in harmony with that of the federal attorney. District Attorney H. W. Edwards and Sheriff Henry C. Nicholson were called in and took the main part in the discussion. Mr. Edwards spoke substantially as follows:

"It is idle to say that the law cannot be enforced and the town made dry. The law can be enforced. The question is not that. It is whether or not the people want it enforced. I think I have talked to about everybody here and the sentiment that I find is not in favor of too rigid application of this law. Officers are only human. The sheriff could be elected on promises to make Ely dry and he could carry out the promises, but no matter how much he might be inclined to follow that course it would be but human for him to coincide with the prevailing sentiment of the community, which is not in favor of too drastic action under its terms."

Mr. Edwards said convictions were not impossible to obtain, but he admitted that where the accused demands a jury trial the real difficulty begins. It resolves itself down, in his opinion, to whether it is better to conform to an unpopular law or to acquiesce in the desires of the people of the county, which, he said, is undoubtedly against rigid enforcement.

He suggested for the consideration of the commissioners what is known as the "Little Volstead act," which has been adopted and is in force at Reno and one or two other places. It presumes a knowledge of and assent to a certain amount of law violation, but it has the effect of reducing the liquor evil to a minimum and gives the town or county the power to regulate its own affairs. He promised to furnish to the board an outline of the plan and its workings for future consideration, which met with the members' approval.

Sheriff Nicholson directed attention to the fact that under the present law the county must go to all the expense of liquor cases, yet the fines go to the state. He regarded it as absurd to expect the counties to bear this expense and said legislators at Carson City had various measures in hand to amend the laws so that the counties could get the revenues.

The sheriff declared that to hire the four additional deputies asked for by the federal attorney would only add to the burden on the county, with the state further enriched by the results of their activities. The present force was quite adequate, in his opinion, to enforce the liquor or any other laws, and an enlargement of the force would not help in the slightest but would only add to the already large cost of running the county. He said:

"I am raiding the stills now and gathering the moonshiners in faster than any other sheriff in the state. My record last year was thirty-two stills against seven or eight for other sheriffs. That is done to stop the manufacture of moonshine liquor, but when you come to its sale that is another matter. I could close up every soft drink place in Ely in half a day, but that would only start the men in the back alleys with it on the hip. This would be a far worse evil and a more deadly kind of stuff would be sold. What we need is a way of enforcing the law so that the county or the city gets the revenue."

The sheriff told of his observations of the anti-gambling law of Montana a few years ago. One legislature made gambling a felony. The result was unrestricted gambling, with many arrests but few convictions. Juries would not consent to sending men to the penitentiary for gambling. The next legislature made it a misdemeanor and gambling soon was worn out by attrition. Gamblers tried by juries were convicted because the jurors, though unwilling to imprison them, were willing to fine them. The first fine would be \$200, from that to \$1,000 and finally up to \$1,600. That stopped gambling. Given a less drastic liquor law, one where the juries could be assured that violators would be fined and the fines go to the county or city bringing the actions, there would be a different story to tell as to conditions here, in the sheriff's opinion.

(Continued on Page Two.)